

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): 1. An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer of N-vinylformamide and/or of N-vinylacetamide, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water,

(A) from 5 to 80 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units and having a particle size of from ~~50 nm~~ to ~~2~~ 1 - 10 $\mu$ m.

(B) from 1 to 50 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant which is incompatible with the water-soluble polymer (A) in aqueous solution.

Claim 2 (Original): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water,

(A) from 10 to 50 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units and

(B) from 5 to 40 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dispersion contains as component (A) a homopolymer of N-vinylformamide.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the N-vinylformamide units and/or vinylacetamide units of the polymer (A) have been partially or completely converted into a polymer containing vinylamine units by hydrolysis with acids or bases.

Application No. 09/830,566  
Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2004.

Claims 5-10 (Cancelled).